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On Tap

Volume 15 Issue 6

June 2009

Calling for Water Conservation Ideas

Everyone has at least one good idea about conserving water. What is yours? We at TCWD would like to know what it is. Is it something you do everyday? Or, is it only when the opportunity presents itself. We would like to feature in future *On Tap* issues some of the ways local water users save water. Send your ideas to: generalinformation@tcwd.ca.gov.

Indoor Water Use

Speaking of conserving water, every little bit helps. Think about the water that is used indoors. Are you aware of the following consumption estimates?

A single toilet flush in a home that was built in the late 80s or early 90s, and still has the original toilets: **3.5 gallons per flush**

Brushing your teeth for 2 minutes without turning off the water: **3 gallons**

A 10 minute shower (with no flow restrictor in the shower head): **25 gallons**

A single load of laundry in a 5 year old washing machine: **42 gallons**

Talking on the cell phone in the shower: **100 gallons +**

No Kidding...talking on the cell phone while you shower! Go to the link provided below to watch this short YouTube video.

http://www.bewaterwise.com/movies/ad_campaigns/ads.html (shower)

This was produced by Metropolitan Water District. Can you imagine the amount of water that is used if this occurs with just one family member?

TCWD estimates 75 gallons as the average indoor water use per person per day. Of course, this number varies from person to person, and day to day. However, if every person could reduce their water use by 10 %, the impact on water conservation would be very helpful.

Dual Flush Toilets

Are you considering purchasing a new toilet? Perhaps you might want to consider a "dual flush" toilet. A dual flush toilet has separate buttons for flushing. One button will use less water (typically 0.9 gallons) for a light flush, and one button uses more water (typically 1.6 gallons) for a heavy flush. This is a very effective way to reduce indoor water use.

TCWD'S ON TAP

You are invited to stop by the District Administrative Office to see the dual flush toilets in the men or women restrooms adjacent to the Board Room.

These toilets were installed just before our May Open House. So far, we haven't received any complaints.

Water Conservation Ordinance Reminders

Please remember the District's Water Conservation Ordinance is currently in effect. The following restrictions regarding water use need to be adhered to by TCWD customers:

- Landscape irrigation is prohibited between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- Excessive irrigation runoff or overspray onto paved or hard surfaces is prohibited
- Excessive use of water is prohibited
- Hosing down of hard surfaces or paved surfaces is prohibited

For a complete explanation of the District's Water Conservation Ordinance, please visit our website at www.tcwd.ca.gov/pdf/ordinance.pdf

In the event TCWD field staff observe a violation of this ordinance, they will note the violation on an Ordinance Door Hanger and leave it at the location. The field staff will then report the violation to Customer Service. Customer Service will follow up with an information letter to assist with understanding the violation notification.

The Regular Board Meeting is held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the District's office located at 32003 Dove Canyon Drive, Trabuco Canyon. The public is encouraged to attend.

Board Highlights

- May 20, 2009 – Received a Status Update Relating to California Drought and Water Conservation Efforts
- Received a Status Report on The Oaks at Trabuco (Goren, Developer)
- Discussed the Notice of Preparation of Draft Environmental Impact Report, Robinson Ridge Development (RSM Properties, Developer)
- Engaged the Services of Leaf & Cole to Perform the Independent Audit
- Received Status Updates Relating to the Baker Regional Water Treatment Plant and Rose Canyon and Lang Wells Upgrades to Treatment Facilities Projects

ON TAP is published and distributed by TCWD.

We welcome your comments, suggestions and questions. Please call or write Sharon E. Smith, Editor

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